



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BEFORE THE PRIMARY EXAMINER

## Application of

Applicant: Jerald S. Burkett Serial No.: 10/038,946 Filed: January 3, 2002

Title : LOAD SHARING COMPOSITE SHAFT

Docket: BUJ 005 P2

Art Unit: 3626 Examiner: G. Binda

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria,

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 3, 2003, please amend the above indicated application as follows:

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A shaft for the transmission of torsional loads, the shaft
- 2 comprising:
- an elongated inner tube member having opposing open ends;